

BIO to Launch Nation's First Forum Connecting Early-Stage, Private Biotech Companies with Venture Partners

BIO National Venture Conference will be held April 22-23 in Boston, Mass.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 30, 2008) -- The Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) today announced the debut of the National Venture Conference, the industry's first national forum to connect select early-stage, private biotech companies with an elite group of healthcare venture partners. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge in Boston, April 22 -23, 2008.

“Through the National Venture Conference, BIO has created a new and unique venue for collaboration between the investment and biotechnology communities,” said Jim Greenwood, president and CEO of BIO. “This conference will bring together venture capitalists and other investors seeking new investment opportunities and high-quality emerging companies with innovative technologies.”

The conference will feature keynote sessions and workshops highlighting industry trends, with a special focus on success factors for early-stage companies, market trends and financing. Through formal and informal networking opportunities, industry CEOs and venture capital leaders will have the opportunity to discuss emerging technologies and partnership opportunities.

Biotech investment continues to grow. Private biotech companies raised more than \$5.8 billion in 2007, a 16 percent increase over 2006 funding, according to BioWorld Financial Watch.

“The goal of the National Venture Conference is to help investors identify the latest trends and to provide early-stage biotech innovators an opportunity to secure the funding necessary to bring their technologies to market,” said Greenwood.

For more information on the BIO National Venture Conference, please visit <http://bnvc.bio.org>. Media registration will open on February 18, 2008.

Upcoming BIO Events

BIO CEO & Investor Conference

February 11-13, 2008
New York, NY

Partnering for Global Health 2008

March 10-12, 2008
Reston, Va.

BIO-Europe Spring 2008

April 7-9, 2008
Madrid, Spain

BIO National Venture Conference

April 22-23, 2008

Boston, Mass.

World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology & BioProcessing

April 27-30, 2008

Chicago, Ill.

2008 BIO International Convention

June 17-20, 2008

San Diego, Calif.

About BIO

BIO represents more than 1,150 biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations across the United States and in more than 30 other nations. BIO members are involved in the research and development of innovative healthcare, agricultural, industrial and environmental biotechnology technologies. BIO also produces the annual BIO International Convention, the world's largest gathering of the biotechnology industry, along with industry-leading investor and partnering meetings held around the world.

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